

U.S. adds conditions to Soviet call

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States might withdraw its warships from the Gulf if there was a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war and the Soviets did the same, White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker said Sunday. Mr. Baker's statement was Washington's first reaction to the Soviet Union's call last Friday for foreign warships to leave the Gulf and prevent escalation of hostilities. The United States has said it will provide naval escort for Kuwaiti ships registered under its flag. Kuwait has also leased Soviet flag vessels to carry its oil. "If the Soviets will remove their ships, perhaps we will take a fresh look, but we certainly are not going to cede control of that region to the Soviet Union," Mr. Baker said in an interview on U.S. television. He said Iranian and Iraqi forces would also have to return to internationally recognised boundaries and release their prisoners. Mr. Baker said the best hope for a solution was the effort by the United Nations Security Council to approve a ceasefire resolution and win agreement from Iran and Iraq. Mr. Baker said the U.N. effort, which President Reagan initiated, would "give us all the opportunity to get away from a difficult situation."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Times Foundation

جordan Times تأسى يوم ٢١ سبتمبر ١٩٨٣ عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية الرأي

Volume 12 Number 3518

AMMAN, MONDAY JULY 6, 1987, DHUL QAIDA 10, 1407

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Mahdi in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi arrived here on Sunday on the first leg of a six-day tour of Gulf Arab states during which he is expected to seek substantial aid for Sudan's battered economy. A Sudanese embassy official said Mr. Mahdi would meet President Saddam Hussein and other Iraqi leaders in Baghdad. Diplomatic and political observers in Khartoum said Mr. Mahdi had started his tour in Baghdad in an apparent bid to offset any unfavourable impressions among the Gulf Arab states over his visit last year to Iran.

China assails Israel

PEKING (R) — China has renewed relations with the Israeli Communist Party but still condemned the Israeli government's Middle East policy, the official New China News Agency has reported. Politburo member Hu Qili told a visiting Israeli Communist Party delegation that China strongly condemned Israel for "its policy of aggression and expansion." His comments followed remarks made by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to parliament last week that he believed China would agree to diplomatic recognition of Israel as the price of a proposed U.N.-sponsored Middle East peace conference.

Algeria celebrates Independence Day

ALGIERS (AP) — The wife of President Chadli Bendjedid blew out candles on a giant cake and cars filled with young people, blowing horns wildly, streaked through city streets, as Algeria celebrated its 25th year of independence from France this weekend. About 3,000 guests were invited by the president to join in the celebrations that began Saturday and continued through Sunday night.

U.S. offers to help scrap Lavi but Israel may continue

TEL AVIV (R) — The United States has offered Israel financial incentives to scrap the costly Lavi fighter project but the programme may continue, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday. The cabinet failed again on Sunday to reach a decision on the controversial warplane for the 1990s. Official sources said both Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres were looking for ways to postpone a scaled-down version of the project through spending cuts. Mr. Rabin, who returned Monday night from talks in Washington, told the cabinet the U.S. administration was prepared to let Israel spend more of its annual \$1.8 billion military aid to meet cancellation costs.

Masked men raid Swedish barracks

STOCKHOLM (R) — Two masked gunmen on Sunday raided a high security barracks which houses the crack regiment responsible for defending key Swedish government buildings, a military spokesman said. He said they had tricked a guard into opening a bullet-proof door at the entrance to the central Stockholm barracks, threatened him at gunpoint and handcuffed him to a chair.

INSIDE

Iranians place missiles on launchers at Hormuz, page 2
King and Queen receive visiting Arab children, page 3
The Siniara tempest rages on, page 4
How does the human computer work, page 5
Cash bundles out Lend to claim Wimbledon title, page 6
White House unveils radical farm policy today, page 7
New clashes erupt in Seoul, page 8

King: Efforts for int'l conference have reached an important stage

VIENNA (Agencies) — Jordan's efforts for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East have made progress and reached an important stage, His Majesty King Hussein was quoted as saying Sunday.

Sunday, one day ahead of normal publication.

The Arab states are seeking such an international conference on the Middle East but there are divisions within the Israeli coalition government over the issue.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the Likud bloc, opposes the conference idea while Foreign Minister Shimon Peres favours it.

Asked about Mr. Shamir's stand, the King told Profil: "What I've heard of the premier's comments do not exactly encourage me, but I hope the last word has not been spoken yet."

Profil quoted the King as saying that the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was welcome for consultation with Jordan despite the groups of involvement in Nazi

Kingdom's decision last year to suspend political coordination with the PLO leaders.

"We Jordanians would be happy if the world were to accept an independent Palestinian delegation seeking an independent Palestinian state. But this seems to come up against enormous difficulties in the U.S., Israel and elsewhere," he said.

The King said he had always believed that both the United States and the Soviet Union should play a decisive role in the Mideast peace process.

"As both superpowers want to remove the atomic threat to humanity, they must now be interested also in a solution to the Middle East problem which equally threatens world peace."

The magazine quoted the King as saying that Dr. Waldheim, who left Jordan after his four-day visit on Saturday, was a "man of peace and moral integrity." Dr. Waldheim is accused by Jewish

groups of involvement in Nazi

Rifai delivers King's message to Assad and reviews Arab situation

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency despatches

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai paid a working visit to Damascus on Sunday to deliver a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and to discuss with the Syrian leader the latest developments in the Middle East and issues of common interest.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, did not give any detail of the content of the King's message but reports from Damascus suggested that it was related to Jordan's efforts towards reconciling Syria and Iraq.

Mr. Rifai, who returned home Sunday evening after the visit, also conferred with his Syrian counterpart Dr. Abdul Raouf Al Kasm.

Petra said the two prime ministers discussed the Arab situation in general and the current situation in the Middle East region. They also reviewed moves and measures adopted by the two countries to further promote and bolster bilateral cooperation and coordination in all fields.

Diplomats quoted by Reuter

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Jordanian Prime Minister Zaid Rifai held talks in Damascus on Sunday in a meeting attended by Syrian Premier Abdul Raouf Al Kasm (right) (Petra photo)

drheim ended a visit to Jordan.

Dr. Kasm also hosted a luncheon in honour of Mr. Rifai at the Al Radwa Palace in Damascus on Sunday. It was attended by senior Syrian officials including Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Salim Yassin, Deputy Prime Minister for Services Affairs Mahmoud Gaddour, Foreign Minister Farouq Sharar, Interior Minister Mohammad Ghabbash, Minister of Presidential Affairs Wahib Fadel, Minister for Prime Ministry Affairs Abdul Mun'ir Al Hamawi and Minister of Local Administration Mohammad Harba.

U.S. congressmen discuss Gulf war with Iraqi leaders

BAGHDAD (AP) — A U.S. congressional delegation discussed the Iran-Iraq war, now in its seventh year, and U.S. intervention in the region with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz on Sunday shortly before French Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond arrived in Amman, a day after Austrian President Kurt Wal-

drupps quoted by Reuter

The diplomats said Mr. Rifai, who was last in Damascus on June 24 when he accompanied the King on a visit to Syria, had probably briefed Mr. Assad on the King's talks last week with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Mr. Rifai made Sunday's visit shortly before French Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond arrived in Amman, a day after Austrian President Kurt Wal-

drupps quoted by Reuter

The U.S. group, led by Representative Les Aspin, a Wisconsin Democrat, flew to Baghdad for a three-day visit earlier Sunday after talks with officials in Kuwait. The delegation had earlier been in Bahrain.

Asked to forward an evidence of the death, the source said: "I am under no obligation to do so. I knew of the death by accident."

Al Anbaa is considered reliable on Kuwaiti and Arab affairs, and is known to be strongly support Iraq and oppose Iran in the seven-year Gulf conflict. It has not previously reported any major story related to the hostages.

In London, Church of England spokeswoman Eve Keatley said Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie had no word that Mr. Waite was dead.

"We hear so many conflicting stories," she said, "That's certainly not anything we've heard." Mr. Runcie is spiritual head of the Church of England.

Officials contacted at the British Foreign Office also said they had not heard anything about Mr. Waite.

Mr. Waite disappeared last January in Lebanon shortly after he arrived there to resume an effort to mediate for release of Western hostages held by pro-Iran groups.

Bombs kill 7 and wound 50 in Lahore

LAHORE (Agencies) — Three explosions Sunday at the city's main railway station killed seven people and injured at least 50, authorities said.

The attacks coincided with the 10th anniversary of the coup that brought President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq to power.

Police said they doubted anti-government activists were involved in the attacks in Lahore, the capital of Punjab state, but they did not elaborate.

Mr. Hopkins is an ardent supporter of the reflagging plan. The embassy spokesman said Mr. Hopkins' action, as U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quinton watched, was "a personal gesture reflecting his own commitment in support of the reflagging."

Mr. Hopkins declared: "The United States is fully determined to establish its position in the Gulf and will not be intimidated by either Iran or the Soviets."

They have discussed with Kuwaiti and Bahraini officials Washington's moves to register 11 Kuwaiti tankers in the United States to give them the protection of U.S. navy ships from Iranian attack.

Later Sunday, the U.S. delegation arrived in Saudi Arabia on the fourth leg of its Gulf tour, an American embassy spokesman said in Jeddah.

His Majesty and Raimond discuss peace efforts and Iran-Iraq war

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond held talks Sunday on France's contribution to Jordan's efforts towards convening a proposed international peace conference on the Middle East.

The King and Mr. Raimond also reviewed the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. It did not elaborate.

The French foreign minister, who arrived here earlier on an official visit to Jordan, said that divisions within the Israeli coalition government remained one of the main problems facing the convening of the proposed peace conference.

In his interview, the King repeated a view never again to ask the U.S. for arms after Washington withdrew from a \$1.9 billion deal last year, Profil said.

The proposed U.S. arms package included advanced jet fighters and anti-aircraft missiles. The administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan backed out of the sale due to overwhelming pro-Israeli opposition in Congress.

"The U.S. government decided

not to provide us with the weapons we need for our defence, although it was our traditional supplier," the King said.

"We have decided never again to demand weapons from the USA."



His Majesty King Hussein meets French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond on Sunday (Petra photo)

discuss with Foreign Minister Taher Masri and other Jordanian officials the latest developments in the region as well as bilateral relations.

A report from Paris said Saturday Mr. Raimond had decided to cut short his trip to Jordan so he can return to France which is embroiled in a diplomatic dispute with Iran. The dispute surrounds an Iranian embassy employee, Wahid Gordji, wanted for questioning during the bombings in Paris in September that killed 13 people and injured 250 others (see page 2).

In his arrival statement, Mr. Raimond told reporters the idea of the proposed conference, which is backed by the French government, had gained considerable momentum.

"From the moment the idea was revived in July 1986 it has taken a more prominent place," he said. "Despite the difficulties, I think it is a good idea."

France, a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, had voiced its support for Jordan's call for convening the conference during visits to France by His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

During his 24-hour stay in Jordan, Mr. Raimond is expected to

Israel bans Gaza fishing for second time in two months

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel has banned the large fishing fleet in the occupied Gaza Strip from putting to sea for the second time in two months, foreign aid officials said Sunday.

They said the Israeli military governor ordered the Gaza Fishermen's Union on Friday not to fish until further notice.

An Israeli patrol boat rounded up more than 50 boats which were at sea at the time and the military governor went to the local mosque to inform fishermen of the ban.

Captain Eli Horovitz, a spokesman for the military authorities, said the order was issued for "security" reasons.

The ban affects about 1,000 fishermen. Each day of lost fishing costs the Gaza industry an estimated \$86,000.

Meanwhile, Israel's military chief in the occupied West Bank, where a bomb blast injured 15 people on Saturday, said Palestinian commandos were trying to destroy Arab-Jewish coexistence in the area.

The bomb exploded in a restaurant in the town of Qalqilya. There was no claim of responsibility and police said there was no way of knowing whether Jews or Arabs were responsible for the attack.

It occurred less than 24 hours after the Shabiba wing of the Fatah movement called for a week of protest action against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

The occupation authorities responded by ordering the Al Na-

Mubarak and Peres likely to hold talks in Geneva this week

with U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Murphy, scheduled to meet in Geneva with his Soviet counterpart Vladimir Polyakov of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Polyakov are expected to discuss possibilities for convening the international peace conference.

Egypt this week protested against an Israeli plan to pump water from the occupied West Bank town of Bethlehem and complained that the scheme constituted a violation of international law.

Mayors in the West Bank have complained that such a well would exacerbate an already serious water shortage faced by Arabs in Bethlehem and nearby areas.

FOR RENT

Furnished apartment consisting of two bedrooms, L-shaped hall, bathroom with an extra toilet, a large kitchen and a separate direct telephone. It is located opposite Shmeisani Bookshop.

For further information, please contact Mr. Marar, phone: 661049.

Iranian missiles placed on launchers at Hormuz

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Iran has begun to place its Chinese-made anti-ship missiles on launchers at the strategic Strait of Hormuz, Gulf-based marine salvage executives said Saturday.

The missiles reportedly were test-fired in the area in February, but the salvage executives said some were placed on launchers on Friday, making them fully operational against shipping.

But a U.S. government official involved in Middle Eastern affairs said that according to information available to him Friday, the Silkworms were "not operationally deployed."

"I would be very cautious about reporting that the missiles have been deployed," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

A State Department spokeswoman had no comment on the report.

The United States, which recently has bolstered its military forces in the Gulf, has repeatedly warned that any move by Iran to deploy the missiles would be a major danger to shipping in the strategic waterway.

The salvage executives, who insisted on anonymity, said the launchers were at the port of Bandar Abbas overlooking the vital strait, and possibly on near-

by Qeshm Island, which belongs to Iran.

They said they were told of the deployment by their radio monitors, who listen for developments in the Gulf and have tugboats on alert for salvage operations.

The missiles have a range of about 80 kilometres and are capable of threatening all shipping in the strait.

Washington reportedly has drawn up contingency plans for a pre-emptive attack on the missile emplacements as one possible move to reduce the danger to shipping in the waterway.

The southern Iranian port of Bandar Abbas overlooks the Hormuz, and Qeshm Island, a large tract on Iran's side of the Gulf waters.

There was no immediate confirmation from military sources in the United States or elsewhere concerning the latest reports from the salvage executives.

U.S. Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger on Tuesday had told reporters at the White House that the Iranian Silkworms were not yet operational.

When the missiles were tested earlier this year, shipping sources said the Iranians fired them at a old ship's hull off the naval base at Bandar Abbas. They said the Iranians hit the simulated target with obvious ease.

Iran has threatened to make the Gulf sea lanes insecure for all countries of the region if its war foe, Iraq, continues to raid Iranian shipping and block its oil exports.

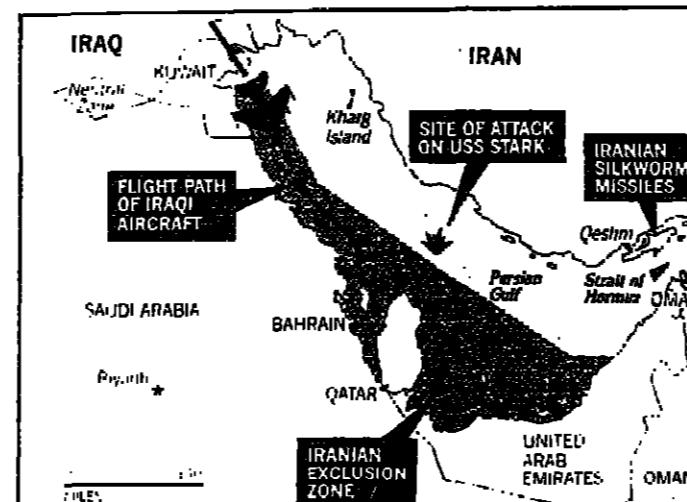
Teheran accuses Kuwait of aiding Iraq's war efforts and are capable of threatening all shipping in the strait.

Kuwait has turned to the United States for protection against Iran, and Washington was to fly the American flag atop 11 Kuwaiti tankers. The tankers will thus be entitled to American warship protection in the Gulf.

Iran has warned that even American warship escorts will not deter it from raiding Kuwaiti ships.

The U.S. navy was expected to maintain a force of three large cruisers, one destroyer, and four guided-missile frigates, in addition to the command ship Lasalle on station in the Gulf by mid-July.

In Bahrain, a U.S. navy spokesman for the command of



the Middle East Force, Stephen Honda, confirmed there were now approximately eight" naval vessels in the Gulf.

Iran's Parliament Speaker, Hashemi Rafsanjani, on June 26 dubbed the United States a "wounded wolf" and warned that "if America sheds one drop of (Iranian) blood in the Gulf, there will be a river of blood flowing in the world."

Iranian officials have scoffed at reports the United States could launch a pre-emptive attack to wipe out the missiles, saying they can quickly be moved away from danger on mobile launchers.

Iran's War Information Headquarters chief, Kamal Kharrazi, has said "It is no secret that the (Silkworm) missile launchers at Iran's disposal are quite mobile and could be quickly moved to a safe location within a few minutes of their loads being fired."

North to tell his story at last

By Sue Baker
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Much of the mystery surrounding Oliver North may be stripped away this week under the glare of television lights as the fired White House aide tells his Iran-contra story for the first time in public.

"I expect it will be dramatic and fascinating," said Representative Henry Hyde, one of the 26 lawmakers who will question Col. North under oath for four days starting on Tuesday.

"He is clearly the focal point of all we've been doing. All roads lead to North," the Illinois Republican told Reuters.

In the seven weeks of hearings so far, the decorated Vietnam combat veteran has seen his super-patriot image badly dented by revelations of possible personal profit and many members have expressed growing doubts he will tell the truth.

Nevertheless, Col. North's testimony has high stakes for many figures in the bungled foreign policy escapades he ran from the White House. And President Reagan, already scarred by the affair, could have the most to lose.

Some legislators remain sceptical. They point out that Col. North's lawyer at that time told the same official Col. North wanted to "step forward and take the spears in his own chest."

Moreover, one day after the lawyer's comment, Mr. Reagan did something Col. North had not been expecting — he fired him.

It was a move some legislators believe was an attempt to make the 43-year-old Marine, whom Mr. Reagan once called a "national hero," a scapegoat for the entire affair.

As part of that effort, administration officials have sought to portray Col. North as a rogue elephant, a can-do officer who ran amok, wheeling and dealing

... arms and hostages in overzealous pursuit of Mr. Reagan's goals.

The arms sales to Iran were an attempt to buy freedom for U.S. hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian extremists and ran counter to stated U.S. policy against dealing with states believed "to sponsor terrorism" and Mr. Reagan's oft-stated pledges not to pay ransom for the hostages.

But several witnesses said Col. North told them he was acting with the president's knowledge and approval in his efforts to free the hostages and arm the contras using private and third country donations during a 1984-1986 congressional ban.

"They feel like they were doing (the) lord's work — worked like dogs ... and believed they were not violating any laws," Thomas Green, Col. North's one-time lawyer, was quoted as saying by the Justice Department official.

Answering reporters' questions last week as he headed into a private session with the committee interrogators, Col. North pledged to tell the truth.

Col. North often boasted about his relationship with Mr. Reagan and suggested he had ready access to the Oval Office. White House records show he attended several meetings with the president but never alone.

At several Capitol Hill appearances last December, Col. North repeatedly refused to testify, citing his legal rights against self-incrimination.

But at one hearing, when a congressman suggested his silence was unpatriotic and damaging to Mr. Reagan, Col. North replied: "I don't think there's another person in America who wants to tell this story as much as I do."

This week he will be given his chance.

Turkey seeks to keep out of Mideast turmoil

By Paul Bolding
Reuter

ANKARA — Visits to Turkey by His Majesty King Hussein and a top Gulf official have focused attention on the role this strategically-placed NATO member country could play in seeking peace in the Middle East.

But diplomats said Ankara, while showing interest in the problems of the region, would do all it could to avoid becoming closely involved.

"Turkey knows anything it does in the Middle East is bound to antagonise someone, and probably one of its neighbours," one envoy said.

Both the King and Abdullah Bishara, secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) grouping Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, sought Turkey's help in efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war when they visited Ankara last week.

Diplomats said the King's highly-arranged visit was mainly designed to seek Turkey's views on his attempts to convene a Middle East peace conference and to secure a rapprochement between Syria and Iraq, both Turkey's neighbours.

Turkey also borders Iran. The long frontier area in the south-east with Iran, Syria and Iraq is particularly sensitive because each has a Kurdish minority with links to the Kurdish Worker's Party, the rebel group waging a guerrilla war against Turkish forces.

Turkey is pulled in various directions as a member of the

work with us. I asked for support in the (United Nations) Security Council. We need Turkey's help on the Gulf question and the Iran-Iraq war."

Gen. Evren told King Hussein Turkey supports the idea of an international conference and they expressed similar views on the rights of the Palestinian people and the need for Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories, including Jerusalem.

Gen. Evren, in his dinner speech, called on Ankara to press Iran to talk peace in its seven-year war with Iraq. "We hope Turkey will insist that Iran follows the laws of God and accept decisions on ending this tragic war..." he told President Kenan Evren.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

NEWS ANALYSIS

One Western envoy said there was no clear role for Ankara to play in helping stage a Middle East peace conference.

King Hussein, in a dinner speech, called on Ankara to press Iran to talk peace in its seven-year war with Iraq. "We hope Turkey will insist that Iran follows the laws of God and accept decisions on ending this tragic war..." he told President Kenan Evren.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

have a role and put forward our views," Kirca wrote.

The King's arrival came a day after Mr. Bishara sought the help of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in efforts to end the war.

He told the semi-official Anatolian Agency he had explained the attitude of the GCC, which supports Iraq, and said: "I asked Mr. Ozal to support us, to

New writers federation announced to replace recently dissolved JWA

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to have a Jordanian Writers Federation (JWF) which will replace the dissolved Jordanian Writers Association (JWA), Minister of Culture, Tourism, Antiquities, and Information Mohammad Al Khatib announced Sunday.

In making the announcement, the minister said that the federation would be a meeting place for creative citizens who would offer services to their country and serve as beacons for their compatriots.

Last month, the government decided to dissolve the JWA, which grouped more than 300 members, charging that the members engaged in political activities incompatible with their work as writers.

Many of the members expressed a strong negative reaction to the government's measure in interviews with the Jordan Times at the time of the closure.

According to Mr. Khatib, 40 writers have approached his ministry with requests for the establishment of the JWF with the purpose of stimulating the literary movement and the cultural activities of the Kingdom.

He said that the proposed federation will have its headquarters in Amman, but soon there will be branches in the main cities of the Kingdom.

The minister said that the 40 writers who submitted requests for setting up the new federation will be considered as constituent members who will now elect a chairman and 10 board members to serve for a transitional period of one year after which the general assembly will convene to elect a new board that will serve for two years.

According to the Jordan News



Minister of Culture, Tourism, Antiquities, and Information Mohammad Al Khatib announces the plans to form a new Jordanian Writers Federation in the presence of some of the 40 writers who submitted the request for the new federation (Petra photo)

Agency, Petra, most of the constituent members had served as members in the former association. The additional members are university professors and established writers.

Members of the new federation will be able to benefit from social security system, housing projects and other benefits that the government provides its employees and workers. Also, through a new law still to be endorsed by the government, they will be offered financial assistance to help them lead a comfortable life and continue their literary work, the minister said.

The new federation's headquarters will be in the same premises of the former association for the time being, until a new location is agreed on, the minister said.

The following names were

given as members of the new JWF's constituent assembly: Roka Al Uzaiqi, Nayef Abu Ubaid, Abdul Qader Robai, Suleiman Al Musa, Mahmud Shalabi, Hani Al Amad, Sabban Khuleifat, Mohammad Abu Hassan, Yousef Al Ghazi, Ali Al Hamad, Abdulla Mansour, Nusrat Abdul Rahman, Salman Butur, Louis Muzayen, Ahmad Jaber, Samih Al Sharif, Mustafa Al Far, Mohammad Samhan, Ibrahim Al Samman, Abdullah Rashid, Ribhi Omar, Azmi Khameis, Mazen Shadid, Hamoudieh Zalloum, Atallah Abu Ziyad, Haider Mahmoud, Hind Abu Shaar, Farouk Jarar, Sabah Simbul, Mahmud Al Tal, Hani Khair, Mohammad Abu Soufa, Dianoud Al Rifai, Yousef Ghawamneh, Suleiman Oweis, Abdul Fattah Nafe', Hassab Abu Ghaniya, Saad Abu Dayyan, Isam Al Mousa, Samir Qatami.

The work of municipalities should complement that of his ministry which strives to support local council's projects with all available means, the minister said at a meeting attended by heads of municipalities and village councils.

He said that the government, under directives from His Majesty King Hussein, is trying to extend technical and financial help to municipalities to develop all regions.

Acting upon these directives, the minister noted that development schemes have been worked out for each municipality with the purpose of raising its standards and boosting its efficiency in implementing projects.

The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment is intent on achieving a reversal of migration to urban regions by providing all services in rural areas of the Kingdom, the minister pointed out.

A working paper on ways to organise in order to handle problems confronting the development process in rural regions was discussed at the meeting. The working paper suggested that the Ministry of Public Works undertake the burden of financing road projects and exempt local councils' purchases from customs duty. The paper also urged the minister to make additional allocations for projects being implemented by local councils.

The minister began his tour by visiting the governor's house and the municipality offices in Tafleth where he was briefed on municipal services.

After the meeting, it was announced that the ministry will study a request for lending Tafleth Municipality JD 394,000 needed to finance its main shopping centre in the city and establish an area to make and sell handicrafts.

The ministry will send out a technical team to Tafleth to make an assessment of the city's needs, according to a statement which followed the meeting.

Later, Mr. Hamdan inaugurated the public library in Tafleth which cost JD 15,000 and announced that the ministry will offer the library JD 500 and 100 books to promote its cultural activities.

He also opened Tafleth's new slaughter house which cost JD 22,000 and laid the foundation stone for a shopping centre at Al 'Eis village, a project expected to cost JD 42,000.

The minister afterwards made an inspection tour of the village of Al Baide where he opened its new municipality building and visited Grandal where he held a meeting with heads of local councils to review public services.

The conference comes in the wake of inspection tours of the Kingdom's schools by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The Crown Prince visited schools

In the last ten years, however, the French have intensified their research especially at Larsa, Tel El'Qasli, Djebel Hammam, Khirbet Dimyie (in the Haradum/Harada area) and Khirbet Derak (in the Eskiye Mossul region). The most important site is Larsa, a huge tel situated in a desolate desert region in the south of the country.

Dating back to 4,000 B.C., the ruins at Larsa are dominated by the vast Neo-Babylonian temple of Shamash. In 1976 the team unearthed a veritable treasure trove — a large jar full of fragments of precious metals, particularly silver, which had been kept in small leather and hide bags, some of the seals on which date the find back to the Paleo-Babylonian epoch.

Although none of the actual artifacts have come with the exhibition, the jar and many of the other spectacular finds from all the various sites are well illustrated, making the exhibition absorbing to anyone interested in archaeology.

Completing the exhibition is a small section devoted to the archaeological work carried out by the French in Jordan. With panels taken from the recent "Le Voie Royale," this section documents the work done in Jerash, Khirbet Es Samra, Khirbet Edh Dharah, Tell Abu Hamid and Iraq Al Amir.

The famous French archaeologist, Thomas-Victor Place, stands before the gate of an excavation he carried out in Khorsabad, in Iraq, in the last century. The photograph is one of an exhibition being held at the French Cultural Centre this week.

Comprising around 20 black and white photographs taken by young French photographer, Philippe Terrance, the exhibition is a personal view of some of the old houses of Damascus.

Catching them in cold, clear,

winter light, these old buildings and interiors seem particularly vulnerable with their sagging timber ceilings, chipped plaster work, fraying carpets and crumbling antique furniture. Yet, despite the obvious wear and tear, these houses have maintained their charm, their character, their

Hamdan tours Tafleth Governorate

TAFLEH (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yousef Hamdan Al Jaber visited Sunday Tafleth Governorate, where he discussed projects being executed by municipalities in the governorate. He also opened a public library in the city of Tafleth.

Sitting among the 67 children from 15 Arab countries, the Queen watched individual and groups play instruments and perform traditional Arabic songs and dances for the audience.

The event, briefly attended by the King, was part of the week-long congress, which brings Arab children to Jordan each year to learn about Jordanian and Arab culture.

Begin in 1980 by the Queen and hosted by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) since 1985, the Children's Congress has brought some 450 children to Jordan to learn more about their Arab heritage, the Queen said.

While teaching the children about Arab culture is important, one of the congress' main goals is to create a family-like atmosphere among the group, she said.

The Ministry of Municipal and Environmental Affairs is intent on achieving a reversal of migration to urban regions by providing all services in rural areas of the Kingdom, the minister pointed out.

A working paper on ways to organise in order to handle problems confronting the development process in rural regions was discussed at the meeting. The working paper suggested that the Ministry of Public Works undertake the burden of financing road projects and exempt local councils' purchases from customs duty. The paper also urged the minister to make additional allocations for projects being implemented by local councils.

The minister began his tour by visiting the governor's house and the municipality offices in Tafleth where he was briefed on municipal services.

After the meeting, it was announced that the ministry will study a request for lending Tafleth Municipality JD 394,000 needed to finance its main shopping centre in the city and establish an area to make and sell handicrafts.

The ministry will send out a technical team to Tafleth to make an assessment of the city's needs, according to a statement which followed the meeting.

Later, Mr. Hamdan inaugurated the public library in Tafleth which cost JD 15,000 and announced that the ministry will offer the library JD 500 and 100 books to promote its cultural activities.

He also opened Tafleth's new slaughter house which cost JD 22,000 and laid the foundation stone for a shopping centre at Al 'Eis village, a project expected to cost JD 42,000.

The minister afterwards made an inspection tour of the village of Al Baide where he opened its new municipality building and visited Grandal where he held a meeting with heads of local councils to review public services.

The conference comes in the wake of inspection tours of the Kingdom's schools by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The Crown Prince visited schools

King, Queen greet Children's Congress

By Peter Baratta
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Smiling faces, colourful clothing and traditional folksongs and dances filled the Al Nadwa Palace Sunday afternoon as Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor greeted the 7th annual Arab Children's Congress.

has faced numerous challenges, she said, adding that "whatever I'm trying to do (with the Children's Congress) is for future generations so they will be full of hope and faith for their future."

In his opening remarks, Issam Zawawi, director of the Children's Congress Programme, thanked the King and Queen for their support of the event and their concern for children which he said goes beyond national borders.

Mr. Zawawi also thanked the congress' preparatory committee and the participating countries for their support and cooperation.

In am Mufti, director of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, said the NHF is trying to create a programme that will enable it to stay in touch with alumni of the Children's Congress and allow all participants to attend an alumni conference.

The alumni conference will help the NHF to "fulfil our aims for building up close relations among Arab children," Mrs. Mufti said.



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor receive children of the seventh Arab Children's Congress on Sunday (Petra photo)

Earlier Sunday, the children met with Mrs. Mufti and Mr. Richard Reid, regional director of the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) and watched a documentary about the organization's activities.

Monday, the group is scheduled to visit Petra and Tuesday, they plan to travel to the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea. On Wednesday, the children will attend the opening festivities of the Jerash Festival before leaving Jordan on Thursday.

The children, who arrived in Amman July 2, visited with Jordanian families and toured the Haya Arts Centre, the Roman amphitheatre in downtown Amman, the folklore museum, the Martyr's Monument, and an Armed Forces unit in Irbid.

New ambassador to Iraq presents credentials

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Jordan's newly appointed ambassador to Iraq, Hilmi Al Lawzi Sunday, presented his credentials to Iraqi deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, Mr. Izzat Ibrahim.

Mr. Lawzi conveyed greetings from His Majesty King Hussein to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. The message deals with bilateral relations.

Workshops study results of education evaluation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has invited experienced educators to take part in workshops of teachers and officials from the ministry on developing a new education system in the country.

The educators and veteran teachers will also be helping in sorting out questionnaires completed by education teams sent out to provinces over the past two months to collect data and information and also to test proposals for updating the education system.

On June 28, the ministry announced that a national conference on education will be held in August, one month before the reopening of the Kingdom's schools for the 1987/88 scholastic year. This conference will review the result of the work of the education teams and also of the questionnaires.

The conference comes in the wake of inspection tours of the Kingdom's schools by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The Crown Prince visited schools



Mabrouk

Marwan Muasher, whose biweekly "Talking Straight" column in the Jordan Times did not always go in straight, is trying something that is hopefully less turbulent and more permanent for a change. Marwan, 31, and Lynne Farraj, 26, entered the golden cage yesterday, with hundreds of their friends and relatives attending their wedding ceremony, and reception at the Marriott Hotel.

The bride, a graduate in sociology from the American University in Beirut 1982, works with the Jordan-Kuwait Agriculture Company, while the bridegroom, Ph.D. in electronic engineering from Purdue University in Indiana, is director of the Planning Ministry's information centre. Information on the newly formed centre will appear in the Jordan Times only after the honeymoon in Hawaii, of course.

Meanwhile, the staff of the Jordan Times would like to wish the couple a happy and thoroughly enjoyable life. Many, many Mabrouks.

Kanaan in London to discuss development aid

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan has left for London on a week-long visit to the United Kingdom for talks on prospective British aid to Jordan.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Dr. Kanaan will meet officials from the British Ministry of State for Overseas Development to explain all about Jordanian-sponsored development schemes in the occupied Arab territories.

Britain had earlier proposed providing £10 million for these schemes. He will also discuss projects to be financed through the British technical assistance programme to the Israeli-occupied Arab lands, Petra said.

It said that the minister will also discuss technical cooperation pertaining to Jordanian development plans.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, in a speech delivered on his behalf in London last month, said that Jordan's new 1986-1990 five-year national development plan is designed to deal with economic realities and to boost Jordan's economy into a new phase of development to meet the challenges of the 1990s.

Photo shows highlight French archaeology, Damascus homes

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — During the course of his official visit to Amman this week, French Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond is scheduled to visit the French Cultural Centre. In honour of his visit the centre is staging two major exhibitions.

Emphasising the fact that the French centre in Amman is a regional centre, the exhibitions cover French activities not only in Jordan but in Syria and Iraq as well.

In the main exhibition hall, on loan from the French centre in Baghdad, is a comprehensive display of photographs, maps and drawings which document the work of the French archaeological delegation in Iraq since it was established exactly ten years ago.

The French have been involved with archaeological work in Iraq for much longer than ten years as the first panel of photographs shows. With charming old shots of such people as Thomas-Victor Place and Paul Botta, the history of French archaeology can be traced back as far as 1842.

The famous French archaeologist, Thomas-Victor Place, stands before the gate of an excavation he carried out in Khorsabad, in Iraq, in the last century. The photograph is one of an exhibition being held at the French Cultural Centre this week.

Comprising around 20 black and white photographs taken by young French photographer, Philippe Terrance, the exhibition is a personal view of some of the old houses of Damascus.

Completing the exhibition is a small section devoted to the archaeological work carried out by the French in Jordan. With panels taken from the recent "Le Voie Royale," this section documents the work done in Jerash, Khirbet Es Samra, Khirbet Edh Dharah, Tell Abu Hamid and Iraq Al Amir.

The famous French archaeologist, Thomas-Victor Place, stands before the gate of an excavation he carried out in Khorsabad, in Iraq, in the last century. The photograph is one of an exhibition being held at the French Cultural Centre this week.

Comprising around 20 black and white photographs taken by young French photographer, Philippe Terrance, the exhibition is a personal view of some of the old houses of Damascus.

Completing the exhibition is a small section devoted to the archaeological work carried out by the French in Jordan. With panels taken from the recent "Le Voie Royale," this section documents the work done in Jerash, Khirbet Es Samra, Khirbet Edh Dharah, Tell Abu Hamid and Iraq Al Amir.

The famous French archaeologist, Thomas-Victor Place, stands before the gate of an excavation he carried out in Khorsabad, in Iraq, in the last century. The photograph is one of an exhibition being held at the French Cultural Centre this week.

Comprising around 20 black and white photographs taken by young French photographer, Philippe Terrance, the exhibition is a personal view of some of the old houses of Damascus.

Completing the exhibition is a small section devoted to the archaeological work carried out by the French in Jordan. With panels taken from the recent "Le Voie Royale," this section documents the work done in Jerash, Khirbet Es Samra, Khirbet Edh Dharah, Tell Abu Hamid and Iraq Al Amir.

The famous French archaeologist, Thomas-Victor Place, stands before the gate of an excavation he carried out in Khorsabad, in Iraq, in the last century. The photograph is one of an exhibition being held at the French Cultural Centre this week.

Comprising around 20 black and white photographs taken by young French photographer, Philippe Terrance, the exhibition is a personal view of some of the old houses of Damascus.

Completing the exhibition is a small section devoted to the archaeological work carried out by the French in Jordan. With panels taken from the recent "Le Voie Royale," this section documents the work done in Jerash, Khirbet Es Samra, Khirbet Edh Dharah, Tell Abu Hamid and Iraq Al Amir.

The famous French archaeologist, Thomas-Victor Place, stands before the gate of an excavation he carried out in Khorsabad, in Iraq, in the last century. The photograph is one of an exhibition being held at the French Cultural Centre this week.

Comprising around 20 black and white photographs taken

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political newspaper published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1973

جريدة الأردن للأنباء العربية الصادرة باللغة الإنجليزية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephone: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faxsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Deeds are louder

LEST any one forget, it is Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin who has approved a controversial and illegal plan to tap a major new water supply at a site near the Arab city of Bethlehem despite strong opposition from Palestinians in the West Bank and a chorus of Arab and non-Arab countries from the four corners of the world. One can hardly ignore the fact that Rabin is a key member of the Israeli Labour Party which, through its present leader Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, has been most vociferous in its support for holding an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict. What then may we conclude from these verbal protestations of support for the peace process in our region by the Israeli Labour Party when viewed and scrutinised against the deeds of the so-called party of peace in Israel? Are we not right in reaching the inevitable conclusion that the real signals emanating from Israel as a whole and from the Labour Party in particular make a mockery of their consent to the convening of an international peace conference?

The Israeli decision to pump some 18 million cubic metres of water from the occupied West Bank should serve notice to Arab policymakers that Israeli deeds speak louder than their words and that we should heed the real messages and signals coming our way from Israel rather than hear their pious words as we chart our course in the quest for the resolution of our national crises and conflicts with Israel.

The case in point on what we are saying here is the example of Egypt, which has strongly protested to the Israelis over their new and dangerous scheme in the West Bank. Egypt, we would like to think, carries some weight with Israel and their bilateral relations could very well serve as a litmus paper with regard to what we may expect in terms of Israeli-Arab relations in the future should there one day be peace in our region. If Egypt, with all its weight and leverage, cannot persuade Israel to reverse its decision to make the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank thirsty and their lands dry, then we are forced to conclude that pinning hopes on reaching peace with Israel is tantamount to building sand castles.

Over and above the legal construction of the latest Israeli decision as contrary to the 4th Geneva Convention, its real ramifications lie in the fact that it comes on the eve of the earnest preparations for holding the proposed international conference. In the wake of so many statements made by Peres that he and his party are solidly for peace with the Arabs, we can only conclude that Israel is not serious about peace and its leaders would go to any length to sabotage all peace prospects.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: A lesson from the past

AS long as Jerusalem and the rest of the Palestinian land are under Israeli occupation the centenary anniversary of the battle of Hittin remains devoid of any meaning. It is true that the Muslims were able to drive out the Crusaders from the Arab land 800 years ago but the invaders are now occupying Arab land and victory still eludes us. Hittin battle is full of lessons and full of meaning and if we want to achieve success in our endeavours to liberate our land we ought to possess the will and the determination and self confidence of our steps and our plans. Of course history is full of instances in which nations blundered and faltered in their efforts in seeking freedom and many nations have been and still are surrounded by the enemy and have not yet succeeded in uniting their ranks in the face of challenges and threats. The Arab and Muslim nations, like the other nations of the world, ought to rise up and struggle for regaining lost and usurped lands and rights. The Arab and Muslim nations still remember Hittin battle 800 years after it took place and they will continue to remember the glory of victory over the enemy and the liberation of occupied land. From this anniversary, we draw hope, and we continue the struggle because this land is either ours or the enemy's; and we either come out victorious or perish trying with all our might to liberate it from the invader.

Al Dustour: Waldheim supports peace drive

WOUNDING up his official visit to Jordan President Kurt Waldheim of Austria expressed his full support for King Hussein's efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference. This fresh support for Jordan gains added importance, coming from a world renounced personality, well experienced in world politics through his service as secretary general of the United Nations that handled the Middle East question for so many years. The Austrian president has been careful to refer to the present divisions within the Israeli government as being the most serious element in aborting the convening of the proposed conference. The president who expressed hope that the conference will be eventually held for the sake of achieving a lasting peace in our area, has also voiced his deep impression about Jordan and described his visit as positive and successful. Dr. Waldheim said before leaving the Kingdom that his visit and talks with the Jordanian leaders were bound to pave the way for more fruitful cooperation between Jordan and Austria. For Jordan, the visit was a chance to express appreciation to the Austrian leader for his country's support of Arab just cause.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israel steals water

THE water supply in the occupied West Bank region of Bethlehem is badly needed by the Arab population for drinking and irrigating their crops which are the main source of their sustenance. Therefore, Israel's plans for stealing that water means depriving the Arab inhabitants of their livelihood and exposing their lands to dry up. Destabilising and changing the balance of nature and ruining the economy of the West Bank means an act of sabotage against peace. The plan presents the world with a new Israeli crime being perpetrated secretly against the Arab people of Palestine to force them to abandon their homeland. Of course the Arabs and some other nations of the world will condemn such moves, but the Israelis will turn a deaf ear to any protest as it has been their habit over the years and whenever crimes have been committed against the Arabs. The Israelis helped by their American friends and through an American contracting firm will no doubt go ahead with plans to steal Arab water.

The Siniora tempest rages on

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

I WANTED very much to have a little chat with Mr. Hanna Siniora during my recent visit to Jerusalem in view of the controversy that had stirred when he announced that he would seek a seat on the Jerusalem municipal council. But I was concerned that my visit to his office or house would be a subject of multi-colour speculation. The passing away of his father during my stay in Jerusalem provided the natural occasion to enter his threshold and seek clarification and elucidation of his maverick decision.

I found the man solemn, withdrawn and bewildered by the smears that marred his name and intentions. Also he was eager to talk as if he was also searching for an opportunity to explain to the suspecting world the true dimensions of his astonishing declaration to enter the Jerusalem municipal elections. There were very few people when I and a close friend from Jerusalem paid Mr. Siniora a visit at his home to express our condolences on the sad occasion of the passing away of his father. As on most such occasions in the Arab World, the mourning was mixed with little and big talk. For Mr. Siniora and his guests, his decision which perplexed and started the Arab and non-Arab worlds dominated the discussions. Uppermost on my mind as a novice in journalism was to establish whether there was any truth to the proposition that Mr. Siniora's decision has a conspiratorial character or a premeditated and calculated master plan to throw a wrench in the on-going quest for peace in the Middle East. Having been victimised by a multitude of conspiracies since the days that they can remember, the Arabs have become accustomed to see a conspiracy in most actions whether individual or national and Mr. Siniora's move therefore did not escape the tarnish of being a suspect of some sort of conspiracy which was drafted and planned by outside "fingers."

The time allotted to condolence givers is normally short in order to make room for the incoming guests who seek seats and time also to express their sympathies. So I was rather direct and swift in my

inquisition and fast on the draw everytime I heard a remark that warranted an additional elucidation.

Likewise Mr. Siniora was swift and abrupt in dismissing all accusations that an "outside force" was behind his move and that he was simply manipulated by others. I had never talked to the man before and I was struck this time by the calmness of his style of conversation and the directness of his responses. First, he hastened to explain his decision was a spontaneous decision, yet a calculated and deliberate move addressed first and foremost to the Israelis to awaken their conscience about the presence of so many Arabs in their midst. He painstakingly took time to confirm that neither the Arab nor the international audience was uppermost on his mind. It was the Israelis that he was aiming at and took his shot at. He was dismayed, therefore, to find that his brethren, the Arabs, were the first to take precipitous actions to weaken his resolve and neutralise and frustrate his "master plan." Till that point in time I was silent, preferring to listen and learn rather than lecture or give pious sermons. Some of the audience were poking questions at Mr. Siniora which were for the most part irrelevant to the heart of the matter. Yet I found myself engrossed in the ensuing legal discussion on the effect of Mr. Siniora's decision to seek a seat on the Jerusalem municipal council on the Arab Jordanian sovereignty over east Jerusalem. As a lawyer by training, I was not swayed by the arguments offered mostly by non-professional that Mr. Siniora's decision to run for election in Jerusalem has a bearing on the sovereignty issue. Sovereignty, I explained, is a national act and not an individual initiative. Why then, I gasped, all this fire and fury over Arab sovereignty in Jerusalem was compromised by Mr. Siniora? No one has ever suggested that Mr. Siniora has a mandate from his constituency to speak on their behalf or make lasting and binding commitments for them. Sovereignty over eastern Jerusalem legally and politically still rests with Jordan and nothing can alter

that legal fact except a new legal framework freely negotiated and agreed upon between the legal parties to the conflict. At that juncture in the discussions, Mr. Siniora revealed that he was seeking the counsel and advice of the best international jurists from the four corners of the world in order to determine once and for all the legal relevancy of his decision to the sovereignty issue which troubled the Arab mind so feverishly.

As usual in all such events, the Israelis were the sole beneficiaries of the onslaught on Mr. Siniora and can now sigh with relief that, true to form, the Arab mind had accomplished for them what their true interests dictate. One Israeli commentator, I was told, was concerned that Arab participation in the municipal elections of Jerusalem can achieve for the Arabs what their collective armies had failed to accomplish. It was conceivable to most Israeli observers, that with 70,000 Arab residents in Jerusalem, Arab electors can ensure control over the direction of the Israeli Jerusalem elections. While listening to these briefings on the effectiveness of Arab participations in the elections of Jerusalem, it occurred to me to inquire about the percentage of the Arabs in Jerusalem who participate in the Jerusalem municipal elections already. Over 10 per cent of the Arab population, I was assured, are voters in Jerusalem. Did such participation by so many Arabs in the elections ever drew harsh comments which could match the treatment accorded to Mr. Siniora? No was the answer of all the listeners to the discussion. Then, how can we, I quizzed, deem a decision by one individual as treasonable yet the voting by some many thousands of our brethren in Jerusalem as tolerable? There was silence, a deadly silence in the midst of the small audience where all these exchanges were made. Yet during that silence I could not help but conclude to myself and by myself that only warped minds can condone the actions by thousands of the Arab citizens yet condemn the thoughts and decisions by one individual no matter where his alleged allegiance lies.

Occupied Arab territories' water supply drying up

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, *The Jerusalem Post*.

By Elaine Ruth Fletcher
Jerusalem Post Reporter

JEWISH settlements in the West Bank supplied by Mekorot have exceeded their water quotas by as much as 36 per cent; the Gaza Strip's water aquifer is being dangerously depleted, and quotas there have been exceeded by Arab well-owners.

Meanwhile, approval of development plans for hundreds of West Bank Arab cities, towns and villages has been delayed for years, sparking disarray and irregularities in development and issuing of building permits.

These are some of the major findings in the State Comptroller's report on the activities of the West Bank and Gaza Strip's civil administration.

The report found that in fiscal 1985, the Jordan Valley's Jewish settlements overstepped their water quotas by 35.6 per cent, while settlements in the Jerusalem region overstepped their quotas by 44.8 per cent. Together, settlements in the two regions used over 36 million cubic metres of water compared with the 26.6 million cubic-metre allotted to them.

The water company, Mekorot, which supplies the water needs of the Jewish settlements, exceeded its pumping quota in the Jordan Valley by about 20 per cent — taking out some 260,000 cubic metres of water above its annual

700,000 limit in 1985-86.

This occurred despite water authority recommendations to reduce consumption so as to avert the danger of salinating local water supplies. The comptroller found that the civil administration did not oversee Mekorot's activities sufficiently.

Over-pumping poses an even graver problem to the long-term viability of the Gaza Strip's water aquifer, which currently supplies all of the area's water needs.

Annual agricultural and residential consumption outstripped natural replenishment of the aquifer by a rate of 50 per cent. While water consumption amounted to 91 million cubic metres in 1985, the Gaza aquifer replenishes itself at a rate of only 60 million cubic metres a year.

If the excessive pumping continues, the report warns, the entire Gaza aquifer may be rendered "useless," and the burden of supplying Gaza's water needs will fall on the rest of the country.

The best long-term solution, the comptroller suggests, may be the pumping of some water from Israel proper to the Gaza Strip, along with replacement of leaky pipes, new desalination projects and stepped-up water conservation.

Quotas on Gaza agricultural water consumption are not tightly maintained by authorities, the comptroller notes. In fiscal 1985, the owners of 313 of the Gaza Strip's 2,072 wells exceeded their water allocations, by a total of 2.6 million cubic metres — or 18 per cent. They were charged small fines for this.

The water company, Mekorot, which supplies the water needs of the Jewish settlements, exceeded its pumping quota in the Jordan Valley by about 20 per cent — taking out some 260,000 cubic metres of water above its annual

Other findings on the water and sewage issue include:

— West Bank Arabs pay significantly more for their water than do Jewish settlers, whose water bills are subsidised by the World Zionist Organisation;

— West Bank drinking water was found to be substandard in 10 per cent of the tests carried out by the Ministry of Health in fiscal 1985;

— By April 15, 1986 water debts in various West Bank towns and settlements amounted to \$648,780. Most of the debt was accrued by Nablus, Hebron, Ramallah and Bethlehem.

Mekorot seized several dunums of land in Nablus region in 1986, drilled for water in the Jerusalem hills and laid water pipes for a Jewish settlement without receiving proper approval or compensating local Arab land owners.

In most Gaza Strip and West Bank towns, sewage is still not being processed. The sewage problem represents a pollution time bomb for wadis and underground aquifers in the area, the comptroller warns.

"If a solution is not expedited... the problem will cause greater damage, and the financial investment required will be much greater than it would be today," it says in the report.

Large quantities of raw sewage flowed from Jerusalem and Al Birsh neighbourhoods to Wadi Kelt and sewage from Ramallah has overflowed into a nearby army camp, the comptroller notes, citing instances of resulting pollution.

leaky pipes.

Building, planning and real estate activities also came under close scrutiny by the comptroller.

West Bank village mukhtars

demanded exorbitant fees — sometimes \$1,000 or more — for permits they issued on behalf of the civil administration in real estate deals. The comptroller also cited irregularities in the administration and financing in the West Bank of the "village leagues" set up by the civil administration.

Even more striking, according to the comptroller, is the total absence of a clear West Bank policy governing development and building. This has led to confusion and delays in the approval of up-to-date municipal and regional plans.

The report notes that no plans exist for five out of 25 West Bank cities sampled. The other 20 towns and cities have plans from the 1950s and 1960s. Hebron's dates as far back as 1944.

Currently, four regional plans,

183 village plans, and 20 town

and city plans are either com-

pleted or are in the process

of being drawn up.

However, their

approval has been delayed for up

to four years, and some of the

plans are already out of date.

"A clear planning policy does not exist in anything concerning area plans, the issue of Jewish and Arab-settlement expansion, building in villages or agricultural areas, population increases, and the provision of services," the comptroller finds.

The report notes that no plans

exist for five out of 25 West Bank cities sampled. The other 20 towns and cities have plans from the 1950s and 1960s. Hebron's dates as far back as 1944.

Currently, four regional plans,

183 village plans, and 20 town

and city plans are either com-

pleted or are in the process

of being drawn up.

However, their

approval has been delayed for up

to four years, and some of the

plans are already out of date.

"A clear planning policy does not exist in anything concerning area plans, the issue of Jewish and Arab-settlement expansion, building in villages or agricultural areas, population increases, and the provision of services," the comptroller finds.

The report notes that no plans

exist for five out of 25 West Bank cities sampled. The other 20 towns and cities have plans from the 1950s and 1960s. Hebron's dates as far back as 1944.

Currently, four regional plans,

183 village plans, and 20 town

and city plans are either com-

pleted or are in the process

of being drawn up.

However, their

approval has been delayed for up

to four years, and some of the

plans are already out of date.

"A clear planning policy does not exist in anything concerning area plans, the issue of Jewish and Arab-settlement expansion, building in villages or agricultural areas, population increases, and the provision of services," the comptroller finds.

The report notes that no plans

exist for five out of 25 West Bank cities sampled. The other 20 towns and cities have plans from

How does the human computer work? — Part 1

By Dr. Kevan Martin

The writer is a researcher at the U.K. Medical Research Council Anatomical Neuropharmacology Unit, Department of Pharmacology, Oxford University. The second part of this essay appears in tomorrow's issue of the *Jordan Times*.

THE human brain is a triumph of miniaturisation, the most remarkable computer in the world. Yet its nerve cells process only 100 or so instructions per second in contrast to the half-a-million that a microcomputer may handle. This makes the speed at which we perform very complex operations all the more astonishing. One of the most complicated tasks we are capable of is visual perception, which goes on in the cerebral cortex. Scientists are now steadily gaining information about how the cortical "microchip" works. Technically formidable operations such as injecting a recognisable "label" into single nerve cells through a glass tube only one-half a micrometre in diameter are producing detailed information that is extremely valuable, not only in understanding our visual process but in building the parallel processing systems that so-called fifth generation computers will use.

Computers are now part of our daily lives. We see them at work in shops at the checkout till, they dispense money to us outside banks, they produce our utility bills and they are coming to replace typewriters for tasks such as writing this article. They tackle complex arithmetic with an accuracy and speed that no ordinary human can hope to match. The rate at which they have proliferated to occupy almost every niche of our existence, in the home and workplace, is a tribute to their flexibility of operation. The silicon "chip" which is the basis of modern computers has

indeed produced a revolution in the 30 years of its existence.

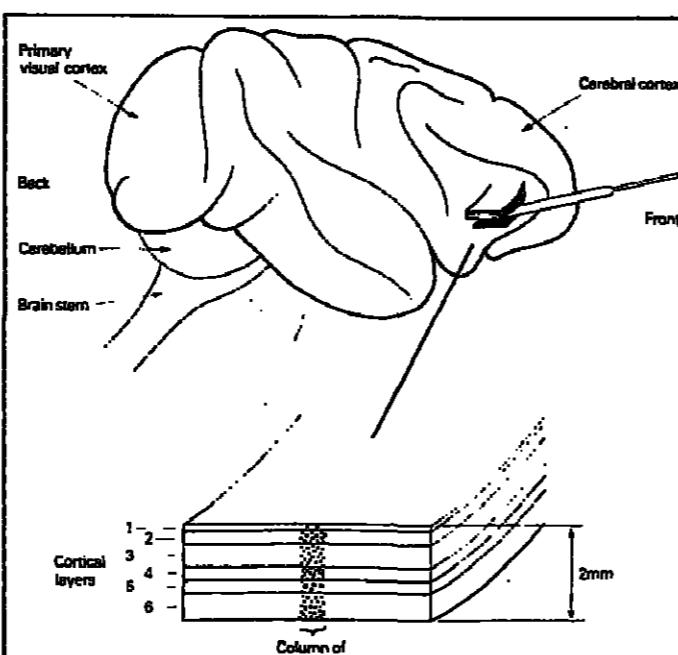
In our admiration for the electronic marvel we perhaps forget that the most powerful computers in the world are not built of silicon, but are carbon-based. Each of us, in fact, owns one of these computers; they come built-in at birth and operate unceasingly, often for well over 70 years. It is, of course, the human brain.

Unlike the silicon chip, the brain has evolved over millions of years and, because it is always with us, we often forget how powerful it really is. It is only recently that attempts to simulate human behaviour using computers have revealed how difficult many of the tasks are that we perform with ease. The speed at which we can carry out very complex operations is all the more astonishing when we consider that a microcomputer can process about half-a-million instructions per second, against the 100 per second or fewer for the average nerve cell.

Processing visual information

One of the most complex tasks we perform is that of visual perception, and this has been a major area of investigations over the last 25 years. We now know that the main processing of visual information goes on within an area of brain called the cerebral cortex. In primates, including humans, the cerebral cortex is so well developed that it covers the rest of the brain, and with its connections, forms over 80 per cent of the brain's volume.

The cortex consists of a sheet of nerve cells 2 mm thick and about one-seventh of a square metre in area. It forms a great deal of the grey matter of the brain, and the nerve fibres that connect different areas of the brain form the white matter. In humans the cortical sheet has to be folded many times to fit inside the skull;



The brain of a monkey seen from the side. Its cerebral cortex covers all the other regions apart from portions of the cerebellum and the brain stem. Much of the cortex lies buried in deep folds. If a piece of cortex is dissected away from the underlying fibre connections, its laminated structure can be clearly seen. The width of a column of cells with similar functional properties varies from about 0.05 to 0.5 mm, depending on the property.

This produces the very convoluted surface of the human brain.

The design of the brain is a triumph of miniaturisation; no present-day computer even approaches the computing power contained within its 1.5-litre volume.

The primary visual processing areas of the cerebral cortex lie at the back of the brain, but the positions of the many other visual signals changes in contrast, such as the difference between the black letters and the white page of this article. In many vertebrates, including ourselves, the retina contains a mix of receptors, all of which are selectively responsive to light of a different wavelength. The information they provide is used for the interpretation of colour.

While almost any visual stimulus

depends on our eyes for normal living.

The first stage in visual processing takes place in the eye, where the retinal receptors sample the visual world and transmit the information to the visual cortex via an intermediate structure called the thalamus.

Each receptor in the retina "looks" at a small piece of the visual world and signals changes in contrast, such as the difference between the black letters and the white page of this article. In many vertebrates, including ourselves, the retina contains a mix of receptors, all of which are selectively responsive to light of a different wavelength. The information they provide is used for the interpretation of colour.

While almost any visual stimulus

activates the retinal receptors, the nerve cells in the cortex are much more selective in their responses. Intensive study by the Nobel-prize-winning scientists Professor David Hubel and Professor Torsten Wiesel of Harvard Medical School showed that most of the cells are selective for the orientation, shape, size and direction of movement of the visual stimulus. Cells with similar preferences are grouped together in columns extending through the full thickness of the cortex. Clearly this sort of functional organisation must reflect an underlying organisation of the cortical circuitry. However, analysis at this level is unable to tell us very much about how the cortex is put together and programmed, any more than we can understand a computer by exploring its word-processing capacities. Nevertheless, in the same way that the circuitry and logic of the computer determines its capabilities, so our understanding of how the visual cortex performs its tasks depends on how much we can find out about the contents of the cortical "black box." Several groups, including ourselves, have now begun long-term programmes of research to find out the structural basis of cortical function.

The experimental work involved in both these strategies is similar. The activity of a single nerve cell in the visual cortex of an animal is recorded, using a glass tube of microscopic dimensions filled with a salt solution containing the enzyme peroxidase, which is made from horseradish. After the physiological properties of the cell have been recorded, the enzyme is injected into the cell, which it fills entirely. The size of the cell body is about 20 µm and the diameter of the glass tube is about 0.5 µm, so the operation of injecting a single cell is technically formidable.

Nevertheless, the effort has produced detailed information about the connections made by single cells, which could not be obtained in any other way — Spectrum.

Randa Habib's Corner

Going in circles

SUMMER is here, the schools are closed, so where do our children go?

Sadly, to the streets.

Wherever you go, especially in the afternoon, you find children playing football, racket tennis, or hide and seek in the streets. Driving through these streets often means disturbing their games and somehow one feels ashamed to do so. The fact is they often have nowhere else to play and nothing else to do.

Our parks are limited, and often situated at the wrong places: the edge of a hill or very close to highways. People, especially children, need open air grounds, but unfortunately despite all our ambitions projects no proper park has yet been built. Sometimes I think that we behave like the Romans. Remember how they used to eat and eat and then force themselves to vomit in order to be able to eat again. Or how they used to destroy things just for the pleasure of rebuilding them again. We did a bit of the same by spending so much money on circles that we are now chopping down while at the same time building others.

Instead of using the huge amount of money that was spent on the Second Circle to establish a proper park — with waterfalls, as waterfalls seem so popular — we spent it on a circle that on turn will eventually disappear. The result is that our children are either in the streets or playing in the middle of the Second Circle, in both cases with the risk of getting hit by a speeding car that in turn is being used as a play toy by our older children, who also have no place to go for leisure or play.

Hollywood cuts lovemaking in response to AIDS

By Ronald Clarke
Reuter

AIDS project Los Angeles.

"Now you have a group of some of the most accepted people in the world reaching out to some of the most unacceptable people in the world," she said.

Burt Reynolds, who once felt impelled to go on a television show to bitterly deny he had AIDS, Sammy Davis Jr., Shirley MacLaine and Burt Lancaster have played leading roles in making the public aware of the dangers.

The chief story editor of a major studio said he believed more and more films during the coming months would concentrate on single relationships.

"Instead of having affairs and getting back together afterward, a couple in a film will work out its problems without at least one of the partners jumping into bed with someone else," he said.

The screen actors guild has said its 58,000 members must be given the right to refuse to take part in open-mouth kissing scenes if they fear this could give them AIDS.

But MacLaine, despite her fund-raising activities for AIDS research, believes screen kissing is safe.

"Actors know how to act love scenes," she said. "We don't do deep kissing in live scenes. If any actor did that to me — I'd slap him."

The safe sex campaign has reached even the pornographic film industry. A major distributor of pornographic films includes with each of its videocassettes a reminder that the film is intended to be a sexual fantasy and that viewers should consult their doctors before engaging in such sex.

Other pornographic films have shown the use of condoms in scenes. But some pornographic film producers believe nothing ruins an orgy scene more completely than someone passing out condoms.

"We are losing not only friends, but also some of the great creative minds and some of the coming creative minds," actress Colleen Dewhurst said.

"Hudson's revelation that he had AIDS brought home the personal threat to everyone," said Tina Sinatra, daughter of Frank Sinatra and an organiser of a group called the entertainment industry support committee for

Honour still eludes 'world's worst poet' in his home town

By Marcus Eliason
The Associated Press

DUNDEE, Scotland — Scotland does its poets proud, and no town is without its statue to Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott or Robert Louis Stevenson. But mention the great McGonagall in his home town and reactions range from a fond chuckle to pained silence.

To connoisseurs of ghoulish verse, William McGonagall is a national treasure, proclaimed by the Times of London as "a real genius, for he is the only memorable truly bad poet in our language."

A century after his heyday, McGonagall's tortured rhymes and fractured meters have earned him a cult following that ranges from Boise, Idaho, to Manchuria.

The British royal family is among his devotees, and in the ultimate accolade, the Oxford Companion to English Literature mentions him as "the world's worst poet."

Dundee, McGonagall's home town on Scotland's east coast, is divided between those who want

to give him the full commemorative treatment and those who fervently wish the muse of poetry had gone someplace else to deliver her most celebrated misfit.

City hall has blocked attempts by McGonagall fans to honour him with a statue, allowing only the modest gesture of a plaque on a park bench near the Burns statue.

Some Dundonians would say even that is too much for the man who produced this leaden ode to an iceberg:

"And the stranger in amazement stands aghast.

As he beholds the water flowing off the melted ice.

"Down the mountain sides, that he cries out, oh, how nice."

Or this gulping lament at the collapse of Dundee's Tay bridge under a train:

"Beautiful railway bridge of the silv'ry Tay.

"Alas, I am very sorry to say That ninety lives have been taken away on the last Sabbath day of 1879.

Which will be remembered for a very long time."

Says David Tennant, a Dundee municipality spokesman, "there's a love-hate relationship between McGonagall and Dundee. I suppose it's a case of a poet not being recognised on his own native land."

Jim MacKie, manager of the David Winter publishing house in Dundee, which printed McGonagall's first poems and still puts out best-selling McGonagall anthologies, says: "I suppose Dundonians don't want to be associated with someone who's famous for doing something so badly."

Willie Smith, who recently reigned as manager of David Winter, insists McGonagall was a genius.

"Here was a man with just 18 months of schooling who could write 576 poems, all of which are published. His anthologies have sold half a million copies. That's more than Robbie Burns. So who judges genius? Who judgesPicasso? Who's to judge McGonagall?"

Rare is the poet, however great, who never drops the occa-

sional clunker. But equally rare is the poet of McGonagall's stature, whose poems, without exception, were "of a magical dreadfulness that reached the sublime," as the late Scottish commentator James Cameron wrote.

From McGonagall's brief autobiography, one learns that he was born in 1825 or 1830, worked as a jute weaver and developed a passion for Shakespeare.

Taking to the stage, his stentorian voice and shoulder-length hair quickly singled him out as a crowd-drawing eccentric.

Playing MacBeth, he once got so carried away that he refused to fall down dead. "Lay doon, MacGonagall, lay doon," hissed the hapless Macduff.

He could not believe the audiences came for the laughs, not the drama, and wrote of his puzzlement at people who would wail him outside the stage door and pull his hat over his eyes.

Only in his 40s did he take up poetry, describing his in his autobiography how one day, sitting lonely in his room and wishing he

could afford a vacation, he suddenly imagined he heard a voice crying, "write, write."

His first ode went on sale at a penny a sheet, printed up on leaflets free of charge by David Winter. Reviewers reacted to the new bard with polite amusement which the humourous McGonagall mistook for praise, assuming the title of "William McGonagall, poet and tragedian."

He sent a selection of his verse to Queen Victoria. The palace's formula acknowledgement emboldened him to assume the even more impressive title of "William McGonagall, poet and tragedian, by appointment to her majesty."

He even walked through a rainstorm to her Scottish castle hoping to give a recital, but was threatened by the gatekeeper with arrest.

Nothing discouraged him. No battle, disaster, celebrity death, or royal event escaped the McGonagall treatment. Every town he visited inspired an ode.

His wife and children went hungry and faced eviction from their cottage while Dundee, a hard-drinking, ruffianish sort of town, turned McGonagall-baiting into a sport.

He was pelted with peas, pies and rotten hams, shouted down by hecklers, mocked by street urchins as "mad McGonagall," and bounded by magistrates for causing the unruliness.

A barman, incensed at McGonagall for having the nerve to recite teetotalling propaganda in his pub, stuffed a wet towel in his

mouth.

Soon he was refusing to perform unless a clergyman sat on the stage.

In 1887, fed up with these riotous spectacles, Dundee's elders bought McGonagall a one-way ticket to New York. But he soon returned, unimpressed except by the skyscrapers:

"They were the only thing that seemed to arrest my eye."

Because many of them are thirteen stories high."

Failing health, poverty, and ridicule eventually overcame him, and in 1894 he moved to Perth, where he died in 1902 and was buried in an unmarked pauper's grave.

But his fame began to spread. The actor Alec Guinness showed interest in his Shakespearean roles. Playwright Noel Coward adapted a McGonagall poem to a song. Actor Peter Sellers popularised him on radio.

Smith, at 71 a tireless promoter of the great McGonagall, says McGonagall societies exist in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Seattle, Sacramento, San Francisco, and Boise, Idaho, as well as Toronto, Halifax and Vancouver in Canada.

"Yet here in Dundee," he says, "they won't put up a statue to him. It's a great shame."

Smith has visited Japan at the invitation of the local McGonagall Society, and in Manchuria he discovered McGonagall poems translated into Chinese.

"The students told me he translates very well."

He was pealed with peas, pies and rotten hams, shouted down by hecklers, mocked by street urchins as "mad McGonagall," and bounded by magistrates for causing the unruliness.

But it is not just indiscriminate tree-felling which is worrying authorities. Farmers are pushing further and further towards the extreme limits of the Sahel's potentially fertile land in an effort to feed themselves. One organisation now experimenting on a 500ha research farm in Niger believes it has the answer to the dangers of overstepping the supportive capabilities of the land.

The government has also introduced a state-run wood supply agency in an effort to outlaw the anarchic practices of the cowboy woodcutters.

It is not just indiscriminate tree-felling which is worrying authorities. Farmers are pushing further and further towards the extreme limits of the Sahel's potentially fertile land in an effort to feed themselves. One organisation now experimenting on a 500ha research farm in Niger believes it has the answer to the dangers of overstepping the supportive capabilities of the land.

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics says lack of soil fertility, especially the lack of phosphate in the soil, is a greater problem for agriculture in the Sahel than lack of moisture. Even in the driest regions, the crop yield could be doubled or trebled if farmers added phosphate fertilisers and farming efficiencies could be increased by 75 per cent.

The research institute was partly responsible for the green revolution in India but "the Sahel should not expect a similar miracle" says the organisation's executive director, Mr. Ron Gibbons. India simply had better resources than the Sahel, the suggested techniques were applied with great vigour and the country's scientific establishment went to great lengths to see that research data was distributed.

—Financial Times news feature.

Oursi is not a desert town yet. But the tide of sand sweeping down from the Sahara threatens to engulf this remote northern outpost of Burkina Faso unless urgent action is taken.

Already, vivid ochre-coloured dunes have swamped vast areas of fertile pasture which, until the early 1960s, supported extensive cattle herds and gave the farmers of Oursi twice as much grain each year as the town needed. Oursi was once a granary of the Sahel — the fragile strip of transition between the Sahara and the African savannah — but is now a net grain importer.

To compound the problem, the dunes have blocked the inlets to Oursi's lake. All that is now left of an 8 km reservoir where a fishing industry once thrived is a muddy strip where goats and donkeys paw the ground in a futile search for the water the town once took for granted. This is the tragedy of the creeping desertification overtaking the Sahel at a rate estimated at somewhere between 16 km and 40 km a year.

Oursi's elders blame climatic change. Government officials think they know better. Research has shown that desertification in the Sah

Cash foils Lendl's claim for Wimbledon title

WIMBLEDON, England (Agencies) — Pat Cash's rocket serves and rifled volleys shot down Ivan Lendl's dream of a Wimbledon championship Sunday, with the brash Australian beating the world's top-ranked player 7-6, 6-2, 7-5.

Cash's victory, a triumph for the traditional grasscourt virtues of solid serving, superb volleying and quicksilver footwork, made him the first Australian since John Newcombe in 1971 to win tennis's oldest and most treasured prize, worth on this occasion £155,000 (\$200,000).

In his moment of glory, the 22-year-old Australian disregarded protocol and clambered through the crowd to embrace his family and friends before returning to the court for the presenta-

and the darting Cash tore Lendl apart with a thrilling all-court performance.

It was impossible not to feel a pang of disappointment for the second-seeded Czechoslovak, so desperately wanting to add Wimbledon to his French and U.S. Open titles, but there was no doubting the validity of Cash's triumph.

Carried forward by the momentum of his first-set success, Cash swept through the second set 6-2 in just 38 minutes.

While Lendl missed time and again with his first serve, Cash kept up his magnificent form, varying his pace and swinging the ball wide to deny the second seed a solid base from which to strike his damaging groundstrokes.

Sunday was a green-and-gold Australian day in every sense. Wimbledon's famous grass court was bathed in brilliant sunshine



Cash... Cashes in on Wimbledon



Lendl... cut to size

court was erratic to say the least, helped the Australian claim the first of these breaks and two magnificent backhand passes brought the second.

By now it had become almost a formality for Cash to hold his serve and he went two sets up with another love game.

Two beautifully disguised lobs by Cash and a loose volley by Lendl, whose play in the fore-

court was erratic to say the least,

helped the Australian claim the

first of these breaks and two

magnificent backhand passes

brought the second.

Mansell knew his car well enough to be able to hold off his hard-charging Williams-Honda teammate, Brazilian Nelson Piquet, by 7.711 seconds. Mansell's total time was 1 hour, 37 minutes, an average speed of 188.560 kmph.

France's Alain Prost again was frustrated in an attempt to gain his record 28th Formula One

Grand Prix victory, coming in

third, more than 55 seconds behind Mansell.

Mansell gained his second

Grand Prix victory of the season

and ninth of his career after

running in race conditions after

setting a practice lap record in

qualifying on Friday.

Mansell's final time was a new

record on the new circuit. He

won last year in 1:37:19.272. The

course was shortened last year.

He averaged 188.560 kmph.

Piquet fell behind Mansell and

Frost after pitting the second time

but rapidly moved back into

second place. In the 68th lap he

had the fastest time for one cir-

cuit during the race, 1:09.548,

breaking a 1:09.993 mark set dur-

ing last year's race by Mansell.

Mansell had set a practice mark

with a 1:06.454 lap Friday.

Piquet was in contention until

the 64th lap when he was trailing

by 985 seconds. Then he took a

chance to get new tires. However

he stalled the engine and he was

out in 15.91 seconds after taking

30th lap.

Mansell gained his second

Grand Prix victory of the season

and ninth of his career after

running in race conditions after

setting a practice lap record in

qualifying on Friday.

Mansell's final time was a new

record on the new circuit. He

won last year in 1:37:19.272. The

course was shortened last year.

He averaged 188.560 kmph.

Piquet fell behind Mansell and

Frost after pitting the second time

but rapidly moved back into

second place. In the 68th lap he

had the fastest time for one cir-

cuit during the race, 1:09.548,

breaking a 1:09.993 mark set dur-

ing last year's race by Mansell.

Mansell had set a practice mark

with a 1:06.454 lap Friday.

Piquet was in contention until

the 64th lap when he was trailing

by 985 seconds. Then he took a

chance to get new tires. However

he stalled the engine and he was

out in 15.91 seconds after taking

30th lap.

Mansell gained his second

Grand Prix victory of the season

and ninth of his career after

running in race conditions after

setting a practice lap record in

qualifying on Friday.

Mansell's final time was a new

record on the new circuit. He

won last year in 1:37:19.272. The

course was shortened last year.

He averaged 188.560 kmph.

Piquet fell behind Mansell and

Frost after pitting the second time

but rapidly moved back into

second place. In the 68th lap he

had the fastest time for one cir-

cuit during the race, 1:09.548,

breaking a 1:09.993 mark set dur-

ing last year's race by Mansell.

Mansell had set a practice mark

with a 1:06.454 lap Friday.

Piquet was in contention until

the 64th lap when he was trailing

by 985 seconds. Then he took a

chance to get new tires. However

he stalled the engine and he was

out in 15.91 seconds after taking

30th lap.

Mansell gained his second

Grand Prix victory of the season

and ninth of his career after

running in race conditions after

setting a practice lap record in

qualifying on Friday.

Mansell's final time was a new

record on the new circuit. He

won last year in 1:37:19.272. The

course was shortened last year.

He averaged 188.560 kmph.

Piquet fell behind Mansell and

Frost after pitting the second time

but rapidly moved back into

second place. In the 68th lap he

had the fastest time for one cir-

cuit during the race, 1:09.548,

breaking a 1:09.993 mark set dur-

ing last year's race by Mansell.

Mansell had set a practice mark

with a 1:06.454 lap Friday.

Piquet was in contention until

the 64th lap when he was trailing

by 985 seconds. Then he took a

chance to get new tires. However

he stalled the engine and he was

out in 15.91 seconds after taking

30th lap.

Mansell gained his second

Grand Prix victory of the season

and ninth of his career after

running in race conditions after

setting a practice lap record in

qualifying on Friday.

Mansell's final time was a new

record on the new circuit. He

won last year in 1:37:19.272. The

course was shortened last year.

He averaged 188.560 kmph.

Piquet fell behind Mansell and

Frost after pitting the second time

but rapidly moved back into

second place. In the 68th lap he

had the fastest time for one cir-

cuit during the race, 1:09.548,

breaking a 1:09.993 mark set dur-

ing last year's race by Mansell.

Mansell had set a practice mark

with a 1:06.454 lap Friday.

Piquet was in contention until

the 64th lap when he was trailing

by 985 seconds. Then he took a

chance to get new tires. However

he stalled the engine and he was

out in 15.91 seconds after taking

30th lap.

Mansell gained his second

Grand Prix victory of the season

and ninth of his career after

running in race conditions after

setting a practice lap record in

qualifying on Friday.

Mansell's final time was

